

MONTANA WOLF PROGRAM - WEEKLY REPORT

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Ken McDonald, Wildlife Bureau Chief
SUBJECT: Wolf Program Activities and Related Information
WEEK OF: June 18-24, 2011

Contributors to the Montana Wolf Weekly are Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Universities, USDA Wildlife Services (WS), the National Park Service (NPS; Glacier NP; Yellowstone National Park will be reported in the Wyoming Wolf Weekly), US Forest Service, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and the Blackfeet Nation.

Highlighted activities relate to: monitoring, wolf-livestock interactions, outreach and education, research, law enforcement, and other miscellaneous topics of public interest. The Weekly Report will be available each Monday, covering the previous week. It and other wolf program information (including the 2009 annual report) can be found on the FWP website.

WOLF MONITORING ACTIVITIES:

Smucker and Smith are also trapping for the Ovando Mtn pack in the Blackfoot Valley. At least 2 pups have been verified in this pack.

6/24: An uncollared adult wolf was located east of Livingston and appeared to have been killed by a live, downed powerline. Dead elk, deer and pronghorn were also located. The wolf was deteriorated, and had likely been dead for more than a month.

6/24: Bradley and Rowan have been trapping for the Mineral Mtn pack near St Regis. An adult breeding female NW233F was captured and recollared (she had a non-functioning collar). Trapping continues to try to get a 2nd collar in this pack. Surveys have also been conducted for the Silver Mtn and DeBorgia packs and pack presence has been confirmed in both areas. During surveys two dead wolves were found: one in the Mineral Mtn pack territory and one in the Silver Lake pack territory. Both carcasses were heavily decomposed but will be investigated further.

WOLF-LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES:

6/20: Idaho WS confirmed that a wolf killed a registered bull calf on private land just West of Monida and within a quarter mile of the Idaho/Montana state line. Idaho WS has been authorized by IDFG to remove one wolf.

6/24: WS trapped and killed a wolf near Wisdom. This is in response to the 6/14 cattle depredation.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION:

6/20: Nelson gave an update on recent wolf activity and wolf management in Montana to about 20 members of the Shields Valley Watershed Group.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES: Nothing to report

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES: Nothing to report

OTHER UPDATES: Nothing to report

To learn more about Montana's wolf population, the Montana program and to help FWP monitor wolves by reporting wolf sign, visit FWP online. Use the following shortcut link and be sure to update your bookmarks: <http://fwp.mt.gov/wolf>

To anonymously report a dead or injured wolf or suspected illegal activity, call: 1-800-TIP-MONT or 1-800-847-6668.

To request an investigation of injured or dead livestock, call USDA Wildlife Services directly in western Montana / Helena area at 406-458-0106 or in eastern Montana at the statewide office at 406-657-6464. Or, call your nearest FWP representative to have your call referred to Wildlife Services.

If you have a confirmed or probable livestock death loss due to wolves, USDA Wildlife Services will supply you with a copy of the Loss Reimbursement Application form. For more information, see <http://liv.mt.gov/liv/LM/index.asp> Or, contact the Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Program Coordinator, George Edwards at the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-5609.